

R E M A R K S

Claims 1, 2 and 15-29 are now in this Application, and are presented for the Examiner's consideration.

After reconsideration of the previously filed Amendment, it was believed that claims 1 and 26 were too restrictive in introducing the longitudinal rods as well as the transverse rods in the main claims.

As indicated in the last paragraph on page 2 of the present application, "the transverse rods and/or the longitudinal rods of the lattice mat are encapsulated by molding with plastic." In fact, as shown in the embodiment of Fig. 2, only the transverse rods 18' are embedded in the plastic or the lordosis support 12, whereas the longitudinal rods 14' run outside of the lordosis support. Then, of course, it is not necessary that the longitudinal rods 14' are inserted in the injection mold (although this has been shown in the example of Fig. 2).

The feature that the longitudinal rods are inserted in the injection mold is essential only in conjunction with the more specific embodiment that is presently claimed in claim 17, where the transverse and longitudinal rods are also connected together in the injection mold.

It is also submitted that the same arguments made in the Amendment filed via Certification of Mailing under 37 C.F.R. §1.8 on March 16, 2004 in regard to the prior art, are applicable to the amended claims herein.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper, to Account No. 07-1524.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 07-1524.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 1, 2 and 15-29 are allowable,

and early and favorable consideration thereof is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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